



DELMARVA AGRICULTURE DATA WEEKLY BROILER CHICKS REPORT

12/22/04
BC-51-04

PLACEMENTS DOWN

For the week ending December 18, 2004, growers placed 11.5 million broiler chicks in Delmarva growing houses, according to the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service. These placements were 0.4% below the comparable week a year earlier. Broiler-type chicks hatched (11.5 million) decreased 0.4% from comparable week in 2003. Eggs set in incubators during the week totaled 13.8 million, an increase of 0.6% from the same week a year earlier. Federally inspected slaughter on Delmarva was 10.9 million for the week ending December 11, 2004 compared to 10.8 million slaughtered during the same week in 2003.

BROILER-TYPE EGGS SET AND BROILER CHICKS PLACED ON DELMARVA

WEEK ENDING	EGGS SET 1/		CHICKS HATCHED 1/		CHICKS PLACED 2/	
	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR	PREV YEAR	CURR YEAR
----- THOUSANDS -----						
10/23/04	12,418	12,586	10,812	11,151	10,812	11,151
10/30/04	13,799	13,314	10,787	10,807	10,787	10,809
11/06/04	14,064	13,554	10,123	10,760	10,123	10,760
11/13/04	13,201	13,074	10,380	10,553	10,380	10,553
11/20/04	13,508	13,337	11,445	11,156	11,445	11,156
11/27/04	13,859	13,803	11,653	11,306	11,752	11,306
12/04/04	13,695	13,218	10,958	10,808	11,048	10,808
12/11/04	13,762	13,810	11,250	11,246	11,250	11,246
12/18/04	13,719	13,804	11,507	11,455	11,507	11,455

1/ For all broiler-type chicks, including those intended for hatchery flocks.

2/ The difference between chicks hatched and placed includes chicks withdrawn for hatchery flocks, inshipments and outshipments. None of those numbers are published to avoid disclosure of proprietary information.

* Revised.

NEGOTIATED PRICE FOR TRUCKLOT OF READY-TO-COOK, ICE-PACK, GRADE A FRYERS (\$ per CWT) 1/

	WEEK ENDING	PREV.	PREV.	PREV.
	12/25/04	WEEK	MONTH	YEAR
New York Weighted Avg	64.18	64.07	62.02	61.36
12-City Composite 2/	68.26	68.00	68.50	65.77

1/ Source: U.S.D.A., Poultry Market News.

2/ 12-cities: Boston/New England, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis and San Francisco.